

April 17, 1941.

Mr. Alexander Pompez,  
195 South 3rd St.,  
Memphis, Tenn.  
% Dr. Martin:

Dear Pompez:

Your letter was just received and I certainly was glad to hear from you. I have been trying in every way possible to get your address, wanted to ask you about several things.

First of all the date at Norfolk & Richmond, I appreciate very much having you go down to play them, they will be either 7th & 8th, or 8th and 9th. I will let you know definitely within the next few days.

Now about Opening Day, I am planning a real big affair. I have invited and they have accepted the invitation the entire Negro Regiment at Fort Dix, N. J., the 372nd Infantry. Mayor Ellenstien is going to issue a proclamation declaring May 11th 372nd Day. We are having a State Trooper escort all the way from Fort Dix to the Ball Park. All in all I believe if we have nice weather, we should really fill the Park this year. Now what I want to ask you is about a little co-operation on the program. While the Colonel of the Regiment did not ask me to, I think I should supply the men with a box lunch, they have to move their lunch hour ahead an hour in order to get here by 2 O'Clock, and after the game I believe they will want to stay around and talk to relatives and friends awhile, which would make them late getting their dinner. At this time I do not know exactly how many there will be, I imagine anywhere from 500 to 1500, a lunch will cost about 25¢. I am asking you to share the expense of this with me, I know you will not object. The Army is transporting the men up in army trucks, and I may have to pay for a parking space for them. I am going to the Bears ~~opening~~ today and will find out about this, if so, I will ask you to share that also. I never spend a great deal for decorations, but I was wondering if on this occasion I should decorate where the soldiers will be sitting. What do you think? That will of course be an additional cost. I was sorry I was not able to get the Band with the little girl Drum Major that I had last year, but Semler had persuaded them to stay in New York.

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Mr. Alexander Pompez,  
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Another matter of great importance, you may remember a four team doubleheader was scheduled in Yankee Stadium for May 30th, in it we were to play the Yankees and you were to play the Elites. In going over my schedule I find that I am in Newark three Sundays in May and those two week days with you. I am in New York that second Sunday in June, the 8th, it seems to me that it would be more profitable for the Eagles and Elites to play that date in Baltimore and leave the Stadium for you and Semler. I am afraid the fans around here will grow a little tired of us, then too, I believe the Cubans and Yankees should draw just as well as four teams from the overflow of the Dodgers and Giants, because of that interesting series you played with the Dodgers in Cuba. I have written to Tom and Gottlieb on this. Tom has also written Gottlieb. I heard from both of them, Tom is agreeable to making the change and Gottlieb said it will be all right with him, if it is all right with you and Semler. I should think you two would prefer it, as two teams would certainly get more money than four. You will no doubt hear from Gottlieb on it. I would appreciate knowing what your feelings are.

Please let me hear from you as soon as possible.

Very truly yours,

EM:CCJ